

1 7. (Amended) The skate frame of Claim 6, wherein the flexible vibration dampening
2 means comprises a contoured portion of each of the first and second sidewalls of the first structural
3 member, the contoured portion having a predetermined cross sectional shape to permit the sidewalls to
4 flex, thereby absorbing at least a portion of the vibrational energy associated with traversing the
5 surface.

6 14. (Amended) A skate frame for an in-line skate, the skate having a shoe portion and a
7 plurality of wheels capable of traversing a surface, the skate frame comprising:

8 (a) an elongate first structural member having downwardly depending first and
9 second sidewalls, the lower ends of the sidewalls being spaced to receive the wheels therebetween;

10 (b) an elongate second structural member having downwardly depending first and
11 second sidewalls, the sidewalls of the second structural member being spaced to receive the first
12 structural member therebetween, such that the sidewalls of the second structural member overlap at
13 least a portion of the sidewalls of the first structural member; and

14 (c) a vibration dampening member integrally formed with the sidewalls of the first
15 and second structural members for reducing the amount of vibrational energy transmitted from the
16 surface to the shoe portion when the skate traverses the surface, wherein the vibration dampening
17 member is flexible, thereby absorbing at least a portion of the vibrational energy associated with
18 traversing the surface.

19 15. (Amended) The skate frame of Claim 14, wherein the vibration dampening member
20 comprises contouring the sidewalls of both the first and second structural members to a predetermined
21 cross sectional shape to permit the sidewalls to flex[, thereby absorbing at least a portion of the
22 vibrational energy associated with traversing the surface].

23 REMARKS

24 Claims 1-34 are pending in the application. In the Office Action dated December 8, 1999,
25 Claim 30 was objected to because of informalities. Independent Claims 1, 14, 20, 26, and 34, as well as
certain dependent claims stemming therefrom, were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e). Further,